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RESERVE OFFICERS MAY

KEEP UP FLYING PRACTICE

The Director of Air Service is arranging a plan to provide an opportunity for the reserve officers of the Air Service to keep up flying practice so that they will be of value to the government should an emergency arise. Otherwise the country will lose the experience these aviators have obtained and thus the money spent on their training would be wasted.

Many reserve officers have made known their desire to obtain flying practice and the government is in possession of quantities of flying equipment, planes of all types, hangars, repair outfits, etc., which will inevitably be scrapped unless some means is provided for their use by the flying men who have gone into the reserve.

It is contemplated to organize reserve units within the different localities. Reserve flying officers residing in the Sacramento Valley district, as far north as Fresno in the San Joaquin Valley, and as far north as Seattle, Wash., who desire to along to this reserve unit and receive a certain amount of training each year in the different types of machines, are requested to send their name, rank and address to Capt. Thomas S. Voss, Mather Field, Sacramento, Cal., who has been designated by the Department Air Service Officer to list the officers for

the Sacramento unit. Those residing in the Bay District should communicate with 1st Lieut. George B. Fredell, 711 Santa Fe Bldg., San Francisco, Cal. Those in the Los Angeles District to Col. L. J. Nygatt, Ross Field, Arcadia, Cal. The District includes the area between Venice and San Bernardino and as far south to include Santa Ana. Those in the San Diego District, to Col. Hanlon, Rockwell Field, San Diego, Cal., this district to include all towns in California south of Santa Ana.

It is also requested that all discharged enlisted men in the Air Service who desire to become members of a reserve unit to communicate with the officers designated above.

A plan whereby the above plans can be effected, is now being arranged by the Director of Air Service. At present no plan is in existence except that schools and colleges for Reserve Officers' Training Corps units and colleges giving courses in military training prescribed by Secretary of War. It is believed that under this plan authority will be given whereby these reserve units can utilize surplus stores of clothing, equipment and material.

AMERICAN LEGION WANT INSURANCE ACT AMENDED

Amendment of the War Risk Insurance Act will be urged by the American Legion, thru its legisla-

tive committee in Washington, in order to allow men insured under the act to elect whether their insurance upon maturity will be paid in installments or in one lump payment.

The present form of War Risk Insurance is known as term insurance and is payable in monthly installments for a period of 240 months. This may be converted into ordinary forms of insurance such as straight life insurance, twenty or thirty year paid-up life insurance and endowment insurance. Except in the case of a matured endowment, these forms of insurance, under the present act, are payable only in installments, extending over a twenty year period, the amount of installments depending upon the amount of insurance.

Service men say that their beneficiaries in many cases are too old ever to realize any usefulness from the insurance if paid only in monthly installments.

CALIFORNIA SHIPS

TO BE KEPT "WET"

The United States may be "dry" but Oakland ship launchings will be "wet" for some years to come. To this end the shipyard owners of that city have laid in a supply of champagne to be used at christenings. This step was taken in deference to sea superstition.

"No hoodoo ship shall leave our yard," the builders said.

WHY SOCKS HAVE "CLOCKS"

They Were Originally Made, It Is Asserted, to Hold the Seams in Hosiery.

It is surprising how much of the past still remains, more especially in regard to the clothes we wear.

On the backs of most gloves will be found three thin strips. These marks correspond to the fourchette pieces between the fingers. In earlier times gloves were not made so neatly as they are today, and the stitching of the fingers was carried down part of the way on to the back of the glove, braid being used to conceal the seams.

To a practically similar reason does the clock on a sock owe its origin, says London Answers. In the days when stockings were made of cloth the seams occurred where the clocks are now displayed, the decoration being utilized to hide the seams.

The little bow which will invariably be found in the leather band inside a man's hat is a survival of the time when a hat was made by taking a piece of leather, boring two holes through it and drawing it together with a piece of string.

Handkerchiefs were not always square. At one time they were shaped to the user's fancy. It chanced that this irregularly shaped Queen Marie Antoinette, who suggested one winter evening at Versailles that a uniform shape would be an indication of good taste. The result was a decree by Louis XVI, issued in the early days of 1785, enacting that all pocket handkerchiefs should have right-angled edges henceforward.

IN HEART OF MOORISH CITIES

Houses to Which Few Visitors Penetrate Are Frequently Luxurious in Their Appointments.

Through the narrow lanes of Moorish cities the water carrier, who has filled his goat-skins at the nearest fountain, piles his trade from house to house. The town of Morocco does not extend open, smiling arms to the stranger. The houses present cold, forbidding fronts. The winding, irregular streets twist and turn in a bewildering fashion, and the low arches, often linking house with house, convert the streets into a series of high-walled, semiclosed courtyards, still more confusing to the uninitiated. But if one is privileged to enter through the massive gates formidably reinforced with heavy iron bands and heavily bolted, one may step into courtyards inlaid with mosaics and ornamented with laced arabesques, surrounded with arched passageways, richly carved and covered with luxuriant hangings; into a melancholy garden flagged with ancient white stones, where a marble fountain plays softly and great orange trees are outlined voluptuously against the white walls and the unclouded sky. Who knows how many wistful harem ladies have languished there, what fantastic tragedies have been spun on curiously fatalistic silken threads?—From "Through the Gates of the Moghreb," by Elsie F. Well, in Asia Magazine.

Sport in Haiti.

"Roosters that crow night and day and have no sense of proportion at all," is the way William Almon Wolff describes Haiti's only fowl of any importance, in an article in Colliers. In addition he accuses them of not being educated, "like the mass of the population," and of being ignorant of the fact "that a cock's business is to let an unobservant world which wouldn't notice the phenomenon itself, know that the sun has risen." "When it comes to cock fighting in Haiti," Mr. Wolff writes, "the rooster plays a very important role. Sunday afternoon is the great time for that," he says, "and all day Sunday you may see sporting Haitians going about with a gamecock or two under their arms. There are two rings in Port au Prince; thousands of men gather there every Sunday afternoon and bet on their favorites. Haitian cockfighting is not a very brutal affair; the birds aren't spurred. It is the custom for the owner of the losing rooster to cry quits before much damage is done."

Human Frailties.

Our structure, both external and internal, is full of imperfection; yet there is nothing in nature but what is of use, not even inutility itself. There is nothing in this universe which has not some proper place it. Our being is cemented with certain mean qualities; ambition, jealousy, envy, revenge, superstition, despair, have so natural a lodgment in us that the image of them is discerned in the brute beasts; nay cruelty itself, a vice so much out of nature; for even in the midst of compassion we feel within us an unaccountable bitter-sweet (Milton of ill-natured pleasure in seeing another suffer; and even children are sensible of it.—Montaigne.

Did More Than Come Back.

Jane's mamma left Jane home alone for a few moments while she ran around to the store. Before going she told Jane that she positively must not let the cat in before she returned. Jane assured her mother that she would do as she was told and not let him in. Ten minutes later Jane's mamma returned and Jane sat where she left her, petting the cat.

"Jane," said mamma, "I think I told you not to let kitty in until I came back."

"You did, mamma," replied Jane, "'a I didn't let him in. He opened the door himself and walked in."

VETERANS MUST GIVE

HISTORY OF SERVICE

Application blanks for the convenience of all former service men who wish to receive benefits under the soldiers' sailors' and marines' educational law passed by the last session of the legislature have been received by Superintendent Briscoe of the public schools, who will give them out to applicants together with all instructions.

Besides giving his name and place of residence the applicant must give the date of his enlistment, place of induction into the United States service and the branch of the military to which he was assigned. The date of his discharge and the length of time he served are also essential.

For the benefit of applicants wishing to understand the requirements of this law the following statement from the secretary of state's office is given out:

In connection with the submission of applicants and the approval thereof by the executive heads of the respective educational institutions of the state with which applications may be filed, attention is invited to the fact that the attorney-general has construed the provisions of this law as including only those who were actual residents of Oregon at the time of enlistment or induction into the service of the United States during the recent war with as including only those who were actually in Oregon at the time of such enlistment or induction, or were temporarily absent from the state at that time and for the convenience of themselves or the government enlisted or were inducted into the service in the state in which they were temporarily residing and were sent therefrom to mobilization camps by the nearest local board.

Oregon Residence Required.

The phrase, "Those enlisted and inducted men whose residence at the time of enlistment or registration was in Oregon," refers to or means only those whose actual residence was Oregon at time of enlistment or registration under the selective service law, regardless of the fact that by reason of their temporary absence from the state their enlistment or

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registration may have been in another state. The actual residence of any applicant under the law can doubtless be definitely established or determined by reference to either or both his "registration certificates" or final discharge from the service.

Where the enlistment of the applicant or his induction into the service was in another state and the applicant at the time of such enlistment or induction into the service was a bona fide resident of Oregon, an affidavit setting forth fully and completely the reasons for absence from Oregon at such time must accompany his application. Such affidavit must show that where the applicant was absent from Oregon at the time of enlistment or induction, such absence was not with the intention of taking up his residence in the state in which he was enlisted or inducted into the service, and that there was no desire on his part to abandon Oregon as his home or as his actual residence. This affidavit may be made before a notary public, county clerk, justice of the peace, or other person qualified to administer oaths, and can be couched in such form as the applicant may choose to make it, so long as it contains the essential and very necessary facts pertaining to this most important matter.

Complete History Needed

A complete history of the service of the applicant must be included in such application and contain a statement of all transfers which may have occurred during the period of his service in the army of the United States to the date of his final discharge.

Attention is directed to the provisions of section 3 of the act requiring the executive head of an institution with which an applicant may be filed to pass upon it and approve or disapprove it within ten days after its receipt. It will thus be observed that great responsibility rests upon those heads in connection with this duty. They should therefore see to it that the applications are complete in every detail before approval and forwarding to the secretary of state for filing and deposit in his office. In the event any such

applications upon receipt by the secretary of state's office are found incomplete and defective in any requirements they will be immediately returned to the executive heads of the institutions for the necessary adjustment.

It might be added that we have in course of preparation forms upon which the soldier, sailor or marine can render monthly statement of his expenses at the end of each calendar month to the executive head of the institution which he is attending. From these statements the executive heads of the institutions can prepare their monthly statements of amounts in which they have aided such soldiers, sailors or marines receiving instruction therein during such period and for which they are entitled to be repaid by the state from the funds available under this act.

Statement and voucher forms for the convenience of the executive heads of the institutions in rendering such monthly institutional statements are also being prepared and will be forwarded at a later date.

Unless it shall be construed otherwise, it is the understanding of the law at this time that the benefits thereof are available to an applicant only after the formal approval of his application by the executive head of an institution and the actual entry upon the pursuit of a course of study therein by such applicant. That is to say, notwithstanding an application may be made to and approved by the executive head of an institution and the applicant defer the pursuit of his course of study until some time afterwards, he is not entitled to the benefits of the law until actually upon his work and certified by the executive head of the institution in the monthly statements to the secretary of state for reimbursement for aid actually furnished during the preceding calendar month.

MOST GRADE ACCIDENTS

DUE TO AUTO DRIVERS

"When running at maximum permissible speed on unrestricted track," said R. J. Clancy, Assistant to General Manager of Southern Pacific, Western Pacific, and Tidewater Southern, "the average passenger train obstructs a crossing less than seven seconds, yet, judging from crossing accidents, there are many drivers of automobiles who misjudge the speed of passenger trains or are too impatient to wait that long and as a consequence run into or are struck by trains, resulting in serious injury or death.

"During the first six months of 1919, 18 people were killed, 81 injured and 233 automobiles were damaged or destroyed in grade crossing accidents, compared with 26 killed and 110 injured during a corresponding period in 1918, a decrease in 1919 of 30.8 per cent in the number killed and of about 36 per cent in the number injured, which, in view of the increase in the number of automobiles in 1919 over 1918, indicates that some progress is being effected in the prevention of such accidents.

"Of these 233, 50 stalled on the crossing and were struck by trains; 111 attempted to cross almost immediately in front of and were struck by trains; 59 ran into trains; 1 skidded into train; 19 ran into and broke down crossing gates lowered to protect them from passing trains; 3 ran into and injured crossing flagmen; 4 ran into cattle guards or crossing signs; and 6 ran over end of track of were not sufficiently in clear. In the two latter instances the accidents resulted in attempts to escape being struck by train after it was observed crossing could not be effected."

FOOD HOARDING IN STATE

TO BE INVESTIGATED

Food hoarding in Oregon will be investigated by the department of justice agents, under direction of B. F. Haney, United States attorney, in the nation-wide campaign to reduce the high cost of living, says the Oregonian. The machinery was put in motion yesterday by Mr. Haney, on instructions from the United States attorney-general. Prosecutions, if any are brought, will come under the Sherman anti-trust act and the food control act.

While the food administration has passed out of existence, the law which the administration enforced has not been repealed and hoarding is as great an offense now as it was during the war.

"The excessive cost of living, in connection with the approach of winter, makes it imperative that nothing be overlooked in an attempt to reduce the cost of foodstuffs," announced Mr. Haney. It is the intention of the department of justice to prosecute any individual, firm or corporation deemed to be guilty of violation of the Sherman act or the food control act.